FRA #3 PT

CAR - No direct reply (456) on behalf of J.J.

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Assistant Secretary Terence A. Todman
State Department
2201 " C" Street NW
Washington, D.C.

Dear Secretary Todman:

I am writing for the purpose of giving you some details about a very unique American project in the Third World, the Peoples Temple agricultural mission field in Guyana, South America, founded by my religious leader, Reverend Jim Jones. The American standard of life and her technological sophistication are without equal in the world, and as Christian emissaries in Guyana, we feel a responsiblity to show America in the best light possible. We take the success of our mission there with great pride and see our role in helping America develop close relations with Guyana and her many neighbors in the Caribbean.

We see this part of the world as so critical to the world's balance of power. With Cuba only 90 miles offshore, America must maintain her presence in the Caribbean with great vigilance. Our success in making the jungle economically prosperous and in bringing the indigenous Indian populations into the Guyanese economy is not only rewqrding in itself, but we value the opportunity to help America develop close working relationships with the Third World. On a grass-roots level, we are able to demonstrate a model of American technology that the Guyanese can and are learning from. We have established a successful cooperative community with a weekly outreach of harvested foods and medical supplies, also health clinics and hygienic instruction given by our medical staff in the surrounding areas. We are proud to serve America in this capacity. We credit the Carter administration for the policies of coexistence and mutual assistance within the hemisphere that we embrace as our own philosophy.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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The history of America for close to three decades has been to bring into

the mainstream of American life, those segments of society which had been neglected. Consequently, Peoples Temple has received on countless occasions national recognition, for successfully establishing and maintaining programs in drug and alcohol rehabilitation, youth recreation and tutorial services, as well as for senior citizens, free food, medical, and legal programs. In 1975, Reverend Jones was named by Religion in American Life as one of the top one hundred most outstanding clergymen in the nation, at a presentation in New York.

In 1973, when the Guyanese Government first gave us a leashold on the 27,000 acres we now have, we hoped that through our mission there we would be able to make some contribution however small to furthering American-Guyanese relations. We hoped we could build a showplace, demonstrating the highest spirit of cooperative brotherhood and creating a community where the needs of all- both young and old- could be met.

Today, there are close to one thousand people living happily in Jonestown, in Guyana's North-West District. We have been visited by representatives of many countries, both from the Caribbean and other Third World countries, who have praised our achievements to the highest. We want American influence to be seen in the best light possible. We think we have found a way to do that. Guyanese Dental Surgeon Ng-a- Fook who this month spent several days in Jonestown remarked, " I have never seen so many people of varying races working happily side by side in the fields without a single spark of friction. With its own school, sawmill, electricity, roads, houses, and so on, all being scrupulously clean , I could not help but be impressed."

Our church membership took the late President Kennedy's proclamation to heart:" Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country." In our present mission in Guyana, we have the vision, the hope, and have taken a step towards the closer international community that surely Kennedy would have wanted to see.

We are confident that your recent visit to Guyana was met and received with a great measure of gratitude by the Government of Guyana. All best wishes to you and the responsibility you carry, in the coming year, in building the international community.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew M. Silver

ANDREW M. SILVER

January 15, 1978

Andrew H. Silver
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S.F., CA 94115

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ATTN: Mr. Terence A. Todman,
Assistant Secretary